



State Senator

March 3, 2005

VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22nd District

Shiawassee-Livingston-Southern Ingham counties

Legislative Update

BREAKING NEWS FROM SENATOR GARCIA'S OFFICE
A Legislative Bulletin for Residents of the 22nd District

Garcia's

BILL OF THE WEEK!

SB 258: Tax Credits for Home Care

Senator Garcia cosponsored legislation this week that will provide tax credits for individuals who open the doors of their home to provide home healthcare for their parents.

Under the legislation, parents must reside with their children for 180 days or more during a tax year.



Numerous bills were introduced this week!

Should you wish to learn more about the proposed legislation, please visit www.michiganlegislature.org and enter the bill number where indicated. The web-site will provide you with the bill's language as introduced and an analysis describing how the bill will affect area industry, the economy and consumers.

Senator Garcia is eager to learn how you feel about proposed legislation. He welcomes your responses via e-mail at senvgarcia@senate.michigan.gov.

A CLOSER LOOK - - Public Act 363 of 2004: Military Family Relief Fund:

Senator Garcia passed legislation last year that establishes the Military Family Relief Fund which provides monetary support to families of deployed military personnel. Funds for the program will be collected through an income tax check-off option on Michigan tax forms. This is the first year the check-off has been available and Senator Garcia encourages Michigan residents to take advantage of the donation program.

The Military Family Relief Fund allows families to:

- Apply as often as needed receiving up to \$2,000 per year;
- Apply for assistance right away, not as a last resort;
- Receive more than \$2,000 should an emergency situation arise; and
- Apply for assistance through the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

Bill introduced to commemorate firefighters

House Bill 4396 commemorates September 11th as Firefighters Memorial Day, acknowledging the sacrifices made by the many Michigan men and women firefighters who lost their lives throughout the year while trying to rescue others.